(c) whether it is fact that these self-financing colleges continue to collect capitation fees in spite of the clear directions issued by Government and what action Government have taken to check such practices?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) Yes, Sir. During last two years there has been mushroom growth of self-financing engineering colleges and polytechnics in the Southern State of Tamil Nadu.

(b) Yes, Sir. By and large the facilities in these engineering colleges and polytechnics are inadequate and sub-standard.

(c) Yes, Sir. These self-financing institutions continue to collect high fees from the students. The National Policy on Education-1986 already approved by Parliament lays down that the commercialisation of technical and professional education will be curbed. It also states that All India Council for Technical Education shall be vested with statutory powers to enable it to play its role including maintenance of norms and standards adequately and effectively. Necessary action to introduce the proposed legislation for the purpose has already been initiated.

High fee charged by English Medium Schools in major cities

201. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a large number of English medium schools have sprung up in all the major cities like Delhi which are charging abnormally high fees from the students; and

(b) if so, what steps Government propose to take to regulate the fees charged by such schools?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENTS OF EDUCATION AND CULTURE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI KRISHNA SAHI): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The number of English medium schools has been increasing. Fees, etc. charged by such schools are regulated by the Union Territory Administrations and State Governments under their respective Education Codes, School Education Acts|Rules. If any violation of the Code|Act|Rule is reported, the same is examined by the respective Union Territory Administration and State Government in the light of provisions in the Act, Rules and Codes.

Discontinuation of Avro flight between Indore and Delhi

202. SHRI AJIT P. K. JOGI: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for discontinuation of the Indian Airlines morning Avro flight between Indore and Delhi;

(b) whether any assessment has been made regarding the requirements of air passenger traffic between these two cities; and

(c) if so, what steps are being taken to meet the increasing demands of traffic on this route?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): (a) Indian Airlines has not been operating any Avro flight between Bhopal and Delhi which provided connection at Bhopal to passengers travelling from operations, Indian Airlines had to provide Avro service in place of B-737 service to and from Pune. To meet this requirement, Indian Airlines had to withdraw the Bhopal-Delhi Avro service.

(b) and (c) Yes, Sir. Indian Airlines operates a daily Boeing 737 service between Indore/Delhi, which adequately meets traffic demand on this sector.